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Translation of a circular which is being distributed amongst Koreans in Shanghai.

Declaration of the preparatory committee for a National Convention.

Only four years ago we began our independence movement. Although no previous pronouncement had been made when independence was proclaimed amidst the "Mansais" of a few of our fellow countrymen, the cry was taken up and re-echoed throughout Korea. This is an outward expression of the spirit of freedom which has been passed from one generation to another of Koreans for more than four thousand years, and which has manifested itself in an unprecedented way during the past ten years. Our independence movement was started in Spring when the plants begin to grow. We must be prepared to make many sacrifices and lose many lives to bring our movement to a successful issue. Although a few heroes made the enemy uncomfortable in Korean and killed several thousands of his soldiers in Chentao, Manchuria, they were never properly organised and never acted under one commander. The different revolutionary parties could not agree to form a national organization, but each followed its own ideas. The spirit of population was consequently broken, and the soldiers forced to seek refuge in the deserts of Siberia.

Fellow country-men ! The fate of a country depends upon the determination of its whole population. The cry of "Mansai" is the expression of our idea but it must be fortified by a national organization which will carry on the movement. The necessity for this organization as the only weapon to further our independence movement is now realized on all sides. The fate of Korea depends upon the formation of a national organization.

Some of our leaders have advocated a national convention to establish this organization, and the suggestion has been supported by Korean societies in America, Mexico, Honolulu, Shanghai, Peking, and Chentao. Prominent Koreans and many organizations in all these different places and countries sent us letters favouring the "National Convention". Therefore we can assure you that the convention has the approval of all Koreans.

We, the committee, are now preparing to call a national convention to settle internal troubles and pave the way for a united effort in the cause of independence which is desired by the whole population of Korea.

We very much regret that we could not call the convention a year ago when we were appointed but we promise that that the matter will not be delayed much further.

Issued May 10, 1922 by the Proparatory Committee of National Convention.

Committees:-

Kang Ku Wu 姜九禹 Kim Chul 金澈
Nam Hyung Wu 南亨祐 Li Dak 李鐸
Song Byung Zo 宋秉祚 One Se Hoon 元世勳

Kim We Taik 金偉宅　　Nam Kong Sun 南公善
La Yong Keun 羅容均　　Suh Byung Ho 徐炳浩
Shin Sook 申肅　　Choi Dai Kab 崔大甲

(Translator's note:- Kim Chul is President of the Korean Club. La Yong Keun is a member of the so-called "Korean Senate". Suh Byung Ho is ex-chief clerk of the "Korean Red Cross". Song Byung Ho is a christian clergyman.)